(b) Total area of Railway land given on lease for commercial purpose as on 31.03.2002 is 3466.70 Hectare, and the total annual revenue earned from these is Rs. 46.36 Crore. In addition, Railways also earn revenue from licensing of land for various purposes like Grow More Food scheme for Railway employees, way leave facilities, pisciculture, shopping etc.

Stoppage of August Kranti at Sawai Madhopur

†2617. DR. ABRAR AHMED: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether stoppage of August Kranti at Sawai Madhopur would be discontinued from 15th August, or in the near future;

(b) whether he is aware that Sawai Madhopur is an important place from the tourism point of view and foreign tourists visiting India want to go to Ranthambhore Tiger Project in Sawai Madhopur; and

(c) whether Government would decide about permanent stoppage of August Kranti and Rajdhani Express at Sawai Madhopur?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Stoppage of Rajdhani Express is provided after taking into account the need for preserving the distinctive and exclusive character of Rajdhani Express trains, the quantum as well as the pattern of traffic obtaining at the station, availability of suitable alternative services catering to the traffic demand of the station and other operational & commercial considerations.

Procurement of Wheel Press Machines by the Railways

†2618. SHRI MOOLCHAND MEENA:
DR. M.N. DAS:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) how many Wheel Press Machines were procured during the last five years and how many were made available for Mysore and Bhopal;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) whether payments for essential spares of these machines have been made, despite the same having not been supplied;

(c) if so, the action taken against the erring officials; and

(d) whether a complaint regarding irregularities in the supply of machinery was received and a case number 1065 was registered on the basis thereof, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA): (a) During last five years, COFMOW has purchased 7 Wheel Presses. One machine has been supplied to Mysore, but no machine was supplied to Bhopal.

(b) All the machines, complete in all respect, have been received. No payment has been made for items which have not been supplied.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) A complaint against contract No. 1065 was received. However, on detailed examination, the complaint was found to be fictitious.

Misappropriation in Jodhpur Railway Hospital

†2619. SHRI P.K. MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the CBI has brought to the notice of Government the misappropriation committed by the employees of Railway Hospital at Jodhpur in Northern Railway, in connivance with the private chemists;

(b) if so, the amounts of losses suffered by the railways as a result thereof; and

(c) the action being taken by Government against the guilty?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA): (a) Yes, Sir. Recently Central Bureau of Investigation have taken up one case against some officers and staff of Jodhpur Railway Hospital for alleged irregularities in local purchase of medicines.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.